Best Practices in Roof Design:



Sustainable Energy Efficient Reroofing

Best Practice Roof Design: Sustainable Energy Efficient Reroofing

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Goals for the Program

- Learn what is an energy efficient roof.
- Learn what is a sustainable roof.
- Learn the problems in roof replacement.
- Learn where the energy money resides.

Sustainable Roof Definition

- A sustainable roof is that which:
 - Has the longest trouble-free service life.
 - Has the lowest life cycle cost.
 - Produces the greatest energy saving.
 - Best serves as a platform for other requirements.

Requirements for Sustainability

- Sound roof drainage design.
- Proper wind resistant construction.
- Proper energy efficiency.
- Proper installation of <u>all</u> roof components
- Regular inspection and maintenance.

Common Low Slope Roofs

- Multi-ply bituminous Asphalt based
 - Asphalt built-up with gravel surface
 - Modified bitumen
- Single-ply chemical
 - Ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM)
 - Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
 - Thermoplastic olefin (TPO)

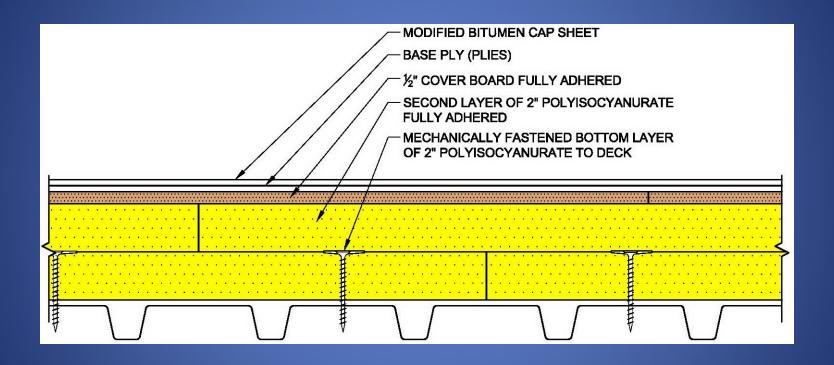
Roof Terminology

- Low slope roof = Less than 3:12 pitch
- Steep slope roof = Greater than 3:12
- Should be no such thing as a "Flat" roof





2009 IECC Requires R-22 Roof Insulation





Mopping plies in hot asphalt









Torching Energy Star Cap Sheet





Applying with Cold Adhesive



Ballasted EPDM Reroof





TPO with Heat Welded Seams

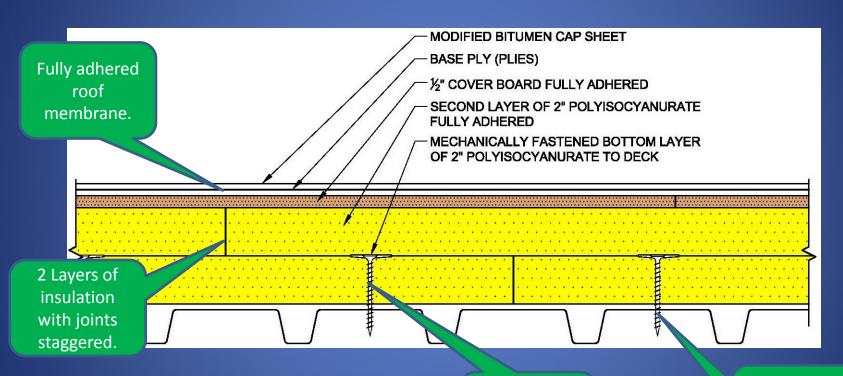




Three Main Problems with Reroofing.

- Code compliance by contractors.
 - Slope and drainage
 - Wind resistant design
 - Energy code compliance
- Recovered roofs vs. complete removal.
- Over-reliance on "cool roof" (white) concept.

Proper Modified Bitumen Roof System



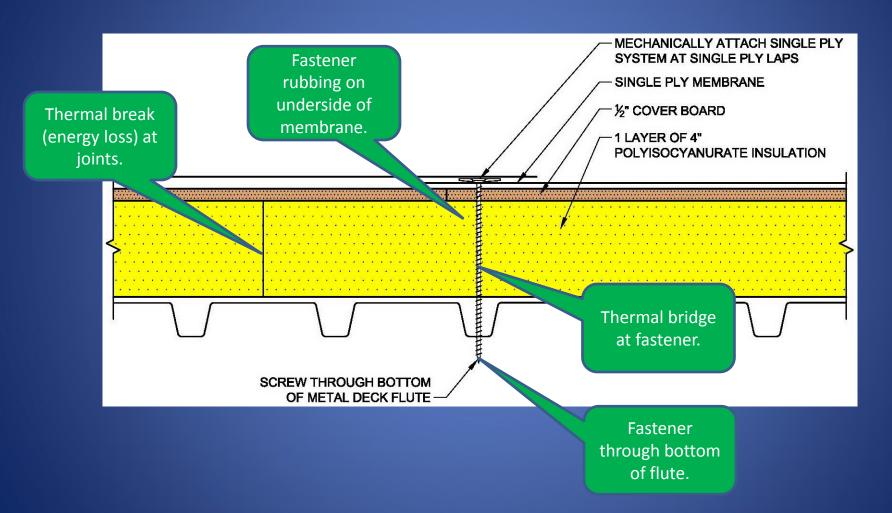
Solutions for the Built World

Fastener through bottom layer only.

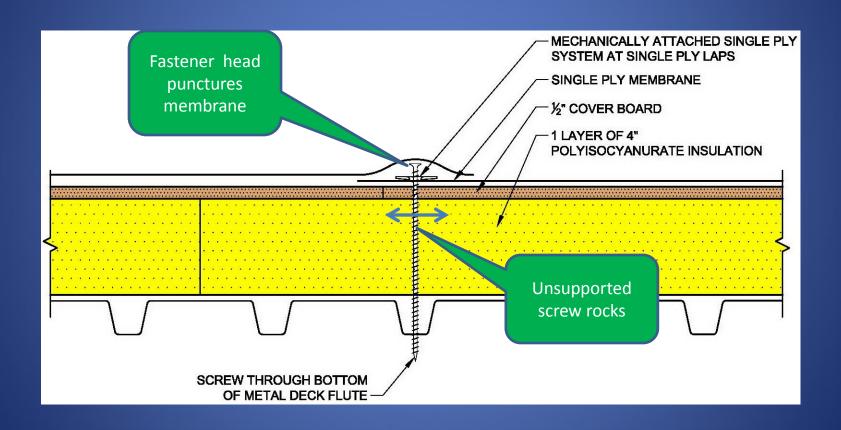
Fastener through top deck flange.



Typical Single Ply Roof Assembly



Single Insulation Layer Failure Mode





Single Ply Failure Mode

FastenerBackout

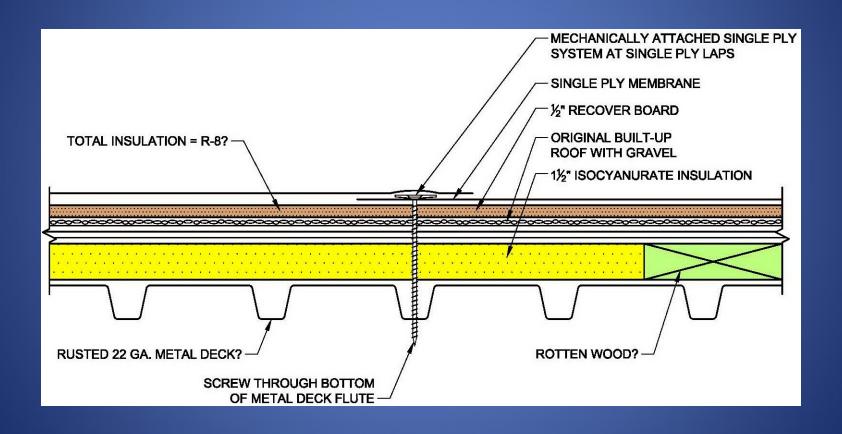


Myth No. 1

- Myth:
- Recovering an existing roof is just as good as tearing the old roof off plus it saves money.

- Fact:
- Wrong. Recovered roofs only last 2/3 as long as when roofs are torn off plus they fail to meet the Texas energy code.

Recover Existing Roof





Recover is Poor Value

- Recovered roofs last about 2/3 as long.
- Likely to cover up long-term deficiencies:
 - Wet insulation
 - Rotten wood nailers
 - Rusted deck
 - Poor drainage
- Usually do not meet the Texas Energy Code.
- Locks in energy inefficiency for 20 more years.

Myth No. 2

- Myth:
- White roofs save energy.

- Fact:
- Wrong. Heat island effect maybe, but energy for your building? Unlikely.

How Cool is a Cool Roof?

89 ºF noon

EPDM single-ply 173 °F

BUR topped with aggregate 159 °F

BUR topped with capsheet 158 °F







How Cool is a Cool Roof?

89 ºF noon

Cool single-ply
121 °F



Cool coating over BUR 108 °F



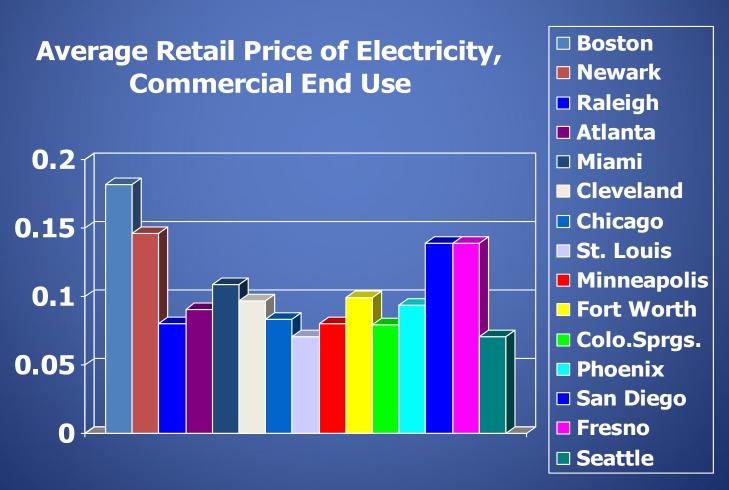
So What Are the Trade-Offs?

Insulation



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Energy Costs... Electricity for Commercial Customers, \$/kwh

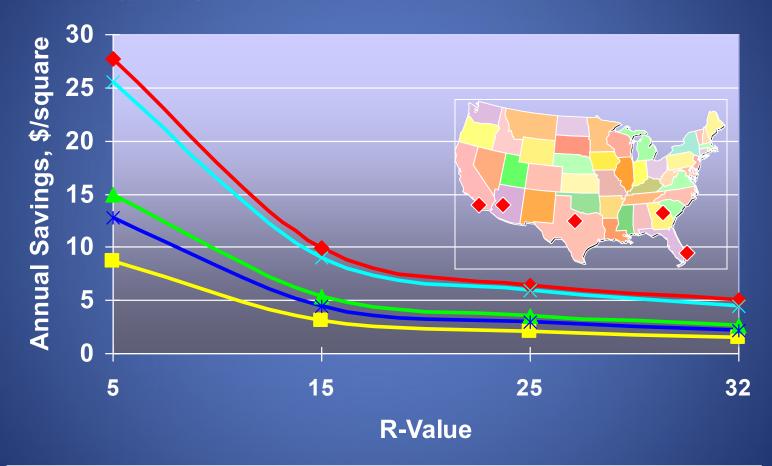


Source: EIA, 2009

Annual Energy Savings

Southern

Annual Energy Savings For a Reflective Roof Membrane vs. a Black Roof Membrane



Keys to a Sustainable Energy Efficient Roofing System

- Most sustainable roof = longest life.
- Most energy efficient:
 - Insulation trumps "cool roof" effect
 - Texas Energy Code = R-22
- Design the entire assembly and all components, <u>not just the skin</u>.
- Tear off old roof; do not recover.

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